

UNION World  
Congress on Lung  
Health in Paris,  
France October 19  
– October 22,  
2005:

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***Trip Report***

Management Sciences for Health  
is a nonprofit organization  
strengthening health programs worldwide.



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Moore, Thomas  
Zagorskiy, Andrey  
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*October 2005*

## **UNION World Congress on Lung Health in Paris, France October 19 – October 22, 2005: Trip Report**

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October 27, 2005

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## **About RPM Plus**

The Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (cooperative agreement HRN-A-00-00-00016-00), works in more than 20 developing countries to provide technical assistance to strengthen drug and health commodity management systems. The program offers technical guidance and assists in strategy development and program implementation both in improving the availability of health commodities—pharmaceuticals, vaccines, supplies, and basic medical equipment—of assured quality for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, and family planning and in promoting the appropriate use of health commodities in the public and private sectors.

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## **Abstract**

RPM Plus conducted a workshop titled “*Strengthening medicine supply in National Tuberculosis Programs: Practical Guidelines and Tool*” at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual International UNION World Congress on Tuberculosis and Lung Health held in Paris France.

## **Recommended Citation**

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## **Key Words**

Tuberculosis, Drug Management, IUTALD, Global TB Drug Facility,

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## ACRONYMS

DOTS	Internationally recommended strategy for Tuberculosis
FDC	Fixed Dose Combination
GDF	Global TB Drug Facility
UNION	International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
NTP	National Tuberculosis Program
RPM Plus	Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus
TB	Tuberculosis
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization



## BACKGROUND

Many national TB programs continue to encounter problems in providing quality TB medicines to patients when they need them. While lack of financial resources may be one constraint for procuring all TB medicines needed, national programs experience a host of other problems in pharmaceutical management.

Strong pharmaceutical management is one of the key pillars to effective tuberculosis (TB) control; without appropriate selection, effective procurement, distribution, stock management and rational use of TB medicines and related supplies, individuals will not be cured of the disease and countries will not reach global targets.

Management Sciences for Health's Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) program funded by USAID in collaboration with Stop TB Partnership's Global TB Drug Facility (GDF) housed at World Health Organization (WHO) Geneva conducted a workshop at the 36<sup>th</sup> International UNION World Congress on Tuberculosis and Lung Health on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2005 at Paris, France. This is the fourth year MSH and GDF have collaborated in such an event at the UNION congress due to popular demand by national TB programmes and their partners.

The workshop titled "*Strengthening medicine supply in National Tuberculosis Programs: Practical Guidelines and Tools*" was organized by MSH/RPM Plus in collaboration with the GDF.

### Purpose of Trip

The purpose of the trip was to:

- Conduct a TB pharmaceutical management workshop "*Strengthening medicine supply in National Tuberculosis Programs: Practical Guidelines and Tools*" at the Union international congress
- Attend the 36th International UNION World Congress on Tuberculosis and Lung Health conference



## ACTIVITIES

MSH/RPM Plus in collaboration with the GDF conducted a day long workshop at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual world UNION congress for lung health. The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate a forum in which participants could promote better TB pharmaceutical management in their countries.

The objectives of the workshop included:

- To share tools and practical solutions used by other countries in strengthening TB pharmaceutical management (activities, processes, indicators, self evaluations, implications for interventions, interventions employed, monitoring techniques and outcomes of interventions to date)
- To allow participants to practice use of tools for quantifying and monitoring TB medicines procured through the GDF
- To share information on how to access technical assistance for pharmaceutical management.

The main target audiences included, managers of NTPs, managers of essential medicines and procurement departments, medicines policy makers, and TB donors/partners, including consultants who conduct programme assessments on behalf of the GDF.

The workshop was well attended with over 70 participants from all over the globe. The presentation format was based on a new tool developed by RPM Plus “*Managing Pharmaceutical and Commodities: A Guide for National TB Programs*.” This guide available in English and Spanish provides national TB programs with a step-by-step approach to reviewing core components of pharmaceutical management for TB in their countries. Using checklists and decision trees, NTP central and district managers can identify and address key gaps in their systems related to TB medicines selection, procurement, distribution, use, management support and policy. Each participant received a copy of the guide.

The extremely interactive workshop also featured a practice exercise on quantification of TB medicines using a tool developed by the GDF. The GDF demonstrated the TB patient kit containing fixed dose-combination (FDC) medicines for a full course of treatment for one TB case. Using the patient kits, participants practiced how to adjust patient dosages based on the different TB weight band categories.

Please see annex one for workshop agenda and annex two for workshop participants’ list.



## WORKSHOP EVALUATION

The workshop evaluation questionnaire was developed and analyzed by the UNION Congress secretariat. Of the more than 70 persons attending throughout the day a total of 31 participants completed the evaluation survey. The main findings include:

- 87% of respondents agreed that the workshop contents was interesting and well presented
- 70% stated they had the opportunity to participate fully in the discussion
- 31% reported that workshop presentations and topics were sufficient (n=26)
- 87% reported that the workshop met stated objectives
- 83% said the workshops were useful and relevant (n=30)
- 90% agreed that the workshop title and description were in line with the course content
- 81% agreed that the workshop was related to conference theme

In general, facilitators received very positive feedback from participants who said the tool will be very useful in their areas of work. RPM Plus received numerous requests for copies of the guide from workshop participants as well as Union conference attendants that visited the MSH/RPM Plus booth.

A detail of the workshop evaluation is appended in annex 4.



## NEXT STEPS

- Provide an electronic copy of the tool “*Managing Pharmaceutical and Commodities: A Guide for National TB Programs*” and other RPM Plus tools requested by participants
- Disseminate the tool “*Managing Pharmaceutical and Commodities: A Guide for National TB Programs*” during similar seminars and workshops and during future RPM plus TB activities as appropriate
- Commence development of the second version of “*Managing Pharmaceutical and Commodities: A Guide for National TB Programs*”. Second version of the TB guide to be done in collaboration with WHO Stop TB’s GDF and Green Light Committee (GLC)
- Commence preparations for next annual meeting based on workshop recommendations.



## ANNEX 1. : WORKSHOP AGENDA

UNION Annual Conference on Lung Health  
**Strengthening Medicine Supply in National TB Programmes:**  
**Practical Guidelines and Tools**  
**19 October 2005**

Time	Topic	Content	Presenter - Organization	
8:15 – 8:30	Participant Registration			
8:30 – 8:45	Introduction	-Introduction to workshop and to the <b>Guide *</b>	Thomas Moore	MSH
8:45 - 9:00	Selecting TB Medicines	-What is selection of 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> line TB medicines - Review how to evaluate a national TB program’s ability to select appropriate TB - Introduction to GDF’s Stop TB FDCs and Patient Kits - Participants share how drugs are selected in their TB programs	Chinwe Owunna	MSH
9:00 - 10:00	Quantifying TB Medicines and Commodities	- What and how of quantifying TB medicines and commodities - Participants share how TB medicines and commodities are quantified in their TB programs  - Practice using GDF quantification spreadsheet	Chinwe Owunna	MSH
			Hugo Vrakking	GDF
Coffee break to be taken during presentations				
10:00 - 10:45	Procuring TB Medicines and Commodities	- What is procurement of 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> line TB medicines - How to procure quality medicines and commodities at the best price	Andrey Zagorskiy	MSH

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to evaluate if a TB program is procuring in the best way</li> <li>- Introduce participants to GDF procurement process, quality assurance aspects and GDF requirements</li> </ul>	Robert Matiru	GDF
10:45 – 11:30	Distributing TB Medicines and Commodities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is distribution of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> line TB medicines</li> <li>- Review mechanisms to improve receipt of TB medicines and commodities, promote robust inventory control and timely deliveries</li> <li>- ask participants to describe their distribution system, weaknesses, strengths, gaps, resource needs</li> <li>- Understand GDF techniques for shipping and storing TB medicines and expectations of national TB programs</li> </ul>	Edgar Barillas	MSH
			Robert Matiru Hugo Vrakking	GDF GDF
11:30 – 12:15	Using TB Medicines and Commodities Rationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What does Rational Use of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> line TB medicines mean</li> <li>- How to evaluate a national TB program's ability to promote rational use of medicines</li> <li>- How to launch a DOTS Plus program</li> <li>- Practical exercise to adjust patient kits for lighter and heavier weight TB patients</li> </ul>	Thomas Moore	MSH
			Hugo Vrakking	GDF
12:15 – 12:45	TB Pharmaceutical Management Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-What does management support mean for TB medicines and commodities</li> <li>- How to use RPM Plus's PMTB guide for evaluating and monitoring a TB pharmaceutical management system</li> <li>- Introduction to monitoring indicators</li> <li>- ask participants to describe their weaknesses, strengths, gaps, in management support</li> </ul>	Joel Keravec Thomas Moore	MSH MSH

12:45 – 13:10	Examples of work: TB Pharmaceutical Management Support ( <i>continued after lunch</i> )	- Management Information System for MDR-TB in Brazil	Joel Keravec                      Projeto MSH Margareth Dalcolmo              Brazil
13:10 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>		
14:00 – 14:30	Examples of TB Pharmaceutical Management Support ( <i>continued</i> )	- Practical exercise to understand GDF monitoring system for TB medicine grant recipients	Helene Castel                      GDF Adam Thomas                      GDF
14:30 – 15:00	Operations research in TB Pharmaceutical Management	- Results of PMTB study in China  - GDF results of Patient Kit survey from Kenya and Philippines	Lai Yuji                      China NTP  Hugo Vrakking                      GDF
The following are simultaneous activities:			
15:00 – 17:00	GDF Consultant Training	- Closed agenda for GDF consultants only	GDF Personnel
15:00 – 17:00	Further Demonstration of Tools if needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Pharmaceutical Management for Tuberculosis – Assessment Manual</i></li> <li>– MIS of MDR-TB Brazil</li> <li>– Quantification spreadsheets (GDF and MSH)</li> <li>– <i>Managing Pharmaceuticals and Commodities – A Guide for</i></li> </ul>	MSH/GDF Facilitators

		<i>National TB Programs</i>  – <i>Operational Guide for NTP – Changeover to Fixed Dose Combination Medicines</i>	
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\* **Guide** = “Managing Pharmaceuticals and Commodities – A Guide for National TB Programs”

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## ANNEX 4. : WORKSHOP EVALUATION

**Date:** Wednesday, 19 October 2005 (08:30-17:00, Room 362/363)

**Title:** Strengthening medicine supply in National TB Programmes: practical guidelines and tools

**Section:** Tuberculosis

**Coordinator:** Thomas Moore (USA)

**1 = Strongly agree    2= Agree    3= Neither agree or disagree    4= Disagree    5= Strongly disagree**

No. of evaluation forms collected: 31

General Practitioner: 8      Specialist: 14      Graduate Student: 0

Other: 9 (Public Health, Programme Manager NTP, Management Consultant, International Organization, Visitor Pharmacist, USAID, Drug Procurement Consultant)

		1	2	3	4	5	No reply
1.	The workshop content was interesting and well presented	19	8	1	1	2	0
2.	I had the opportunity to participate fully in the discussion	16	6	6	2	1	0
3.	I would have liked more presentations (if so, please state what topics you would have liked to hear about, specify below)	6	6	6	5	3	5
4.	The workshop met the stated objectives	14	13	1	3	0	0
5.	The workshop materials were useful and relevant	17	8	2	1	2	1
6.	The workshop title and description were in line with the course content	17	11	1	0	2	0
7.	The workshop was related to the conference theme	18	7	3	2	1	0

**Are there any other topics that you would like to be covered at a future conference:**

- GDF / MSH
- Quality control models
- Postgraduate course on procurement and supply will help NTP managers to manage the Programme more efficiently
- All sessions will cover perhaps more on the FDC's
- How to put up an MDR-TB Programme in place
- Brief talk about stock management system
- Excellent workshop, I especially liked the handout book, as this will be very useful after the conference is over. Great job

